35 Eccles St Dublin.
11 April 1873

My dear Mr Garrison.

Yesterday morng. seven week the spirit of our dear father passed away on 20th Feb, the last breath not enduring much beyond midnight of the 19 February. The physician & nurse both assured us that he suffered no pain although to our (fortunately) inexperienced eyes as to death the difficulty of respiration seemed pain for some few hours: he was however unconscious for more than 30 hours, having ceased to

Mr Lloyd Garrison Esq
Boston

Speak

71A

or to show knowledge of us
even some hours previously. We
had been able to notice a
decided physical decline for
several years & he has had at
different periods of his life
fainting fits which were caused
by weak action of the heart, so
decided, that even so lately
as yesterday a stimulant &
meat-prescribing Doctor of
great ability, said to my
sister, that he was much
surprised that our father had
lived so long after the attack
he had some five years ago!

some three or four years since ~~since~~ the same Dr (an old friend) said that "your father has proved us to be wrong when we ordered him to take meat & stimulants!")

So much for his habit of life & the duration of his life!

Reading over old letters & also from conversation & our own knowledge we never knew him to be constitutionally a vigorous muscular man & his change of diet some 30 or 40 years ago may have prolonged his useful & active life — I think his last effort in public writing was a "X Mas letter in 1871 one

one of which he had been in the habit of publishing yearly. Since then: he wrote answers to several addresses which were presented to him by Temperance & other societies with which he had been connected. He also wrote some private letters & was able to attend to his own private affairs. He was dangerously ill this time ~~the summer~~ but recovered all through the summer, driving, walking reading & conversing pleasantly with his friends, so that we began to have hopes that he might enjoy a few years of tranquil old age

free from pain & work: but
I don't think that he thought so
himself: he had a wearied
feeling, principally from weakness
of body, but he also felt sensibly
his own inability to do any
more good. He began to fail
again in winter, sunk & rallied
twice & ten days before
his last illness he was stronger
& better able to read, talk &
move about the house than for
weeks before: the only semblance
of pain (except weariness!)
was a sort of weight or
fullness in the head which

he often complained of, of late years — During his last attack there was no rally & he sunk daily being however only four days completly confined to bed.

Throughout life & to the last he was ever anxiously seeking the will of God & his deep religious feelings doubtlessly had a marked influence on his conduct in the world. We feel his absence almost more than if he had been taken in the full vigor of work, some

4 years ago: the warm affection which was ever his strongest sentiment became intensified as he became helpless and we had to assist him, at toilet & meals, & to read to him at times when his sight was variable — My sisters & I have no words to express what we feel about the letter in which you so warmly express your admiration of his character. I would hardly have ventured to publish a letter so laudatory, if I did not feel that it was

quite deserved & that the sanction of your name would fully excuse me with those whose opinion was of any value: it is (I can hardly say curious) but I am sorry noteworthy) fact, that one of his oldest friends & contemporaries said to me within a week or two almost the words of your last few lines, as to the absolute confidence which my dear father inspired: so that you in your short acquaintanceship (I think you met three different years & the last time I had the pleasure of renewing my boyish remembrance

of your) observed one of the most striking points in his character. — —

I ventured to introduce your letter with a few lines written editorially! some newspaper people like to be saved a trouble of heading, at same time to get the credit of doing the work; I also felt that it would do better for the public if publicly presented.

The Press, of all politics, has shewn much respect to his memory, at the earliest moment the various newspapers gave

reasonably good & long reports
& we have had very numerous
expressions of sympathy, to
which answers of some kind
had to be written —

In the world men are
too forgotten, life is too
short & struggle for existence
or for success too hard,
to allow of long enduring
memory of those gone, except
on the part of the nearest
relatives whose every day

occupations seem sadly wanting of something. I suppose time must have its effect in bringing forgetfulness, though in my dear father's case I don't think he ever forgot the great sorrow of his life.

I have sent you three copies of the Freeman's Journal of 10th with your letter. I had also sent you several other papers with Memoirs &c.

There seem to be only two clerical errors by the printer & he did not put character in Italics!

I would not have inflicted this long letter on you but that you seemed to wish to have some more private account of his latter days than the reports of the Press. Although my dear Sir our personal acquaintance is but slight, your name has been almost 'a household word' since my boyhood: I see daily, your bust & portrait & I feel like writing to an old friend. As an Abolitionist my dear father was most uncompromising, on friendly terms even with many, with only all I may say, who were opposed to him, he refused to the Slaveowner alone the right-hand of welcome: & this strong sentiment was coupled with the deepest respect & regard for the uncompromising party of whom you were the honored leader & which sentiment is fully felt by yours most truly

Sam'l Haughton

P.S. Since the days of the 'Liberator' & Anti Slavery Standard (of which I have several copies bound up with my fathers & R D Webb's letters most of latter, sent out for Alfred W) I don't see much of the American Press our principal reading room here changed the Tribune for the New York Herald I did see the Nation at one time but rarely see it now. There was a short memoir of my father in the New York Daily witness but I do not know if there was any notice in any other American papers - I think

sent you an old Scotch paper with
a report of one of your speeches
some 30 years ago – One of the
last visits which my father took
real enjoyment from was when Alfred
Webb was kind enough to come and
relate to him of his kind reception
in America & tell him of those
whom he had met in former years
during the great Anti Slavery struggle
There is a rapid vanishing
few are now left here: fortu-
nately there does not seem to be
at the present moment any
question of such magnitude of
which the Right is so apparent
about which there ought be so
[illegible]e difference of opinion